

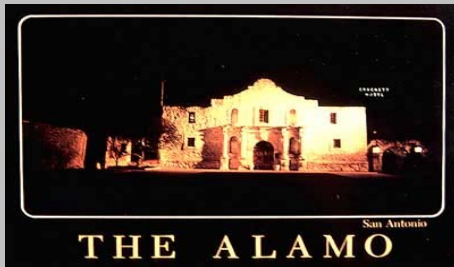
Youth Initiative Program

January 2005 Issue 1

Network Providers Newsletter

MEETING REMINDER

The Youth Initiative Program will hold its next networking meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2004, at the Alamo Conference Center.



The Alamo is located at 820 North Raynor, El Paso, Tx. Please make plans to attend. For information call (915) 298-9600.

Helpline Directory 2005

The Youth Initiative Program's Helpline Directory helps those who live and work in El Paso area find agencies that respond to health, human services, educational, recreational and emergency needs. The listing outlines basic information such as services, eligibility requirements, fees (most are free/sliding fee/Medicaid), operating hours, intake procedures, and area served.

YIP is currently updating information for the 2005 publication. The Helpline Directory can be located at the EPPD website: eppd.org; click on Youth & Education; Youth Initiative Program and click on Helpline Directory. We encourage you to check the website and submit any changes for your agency to TovarM@ci.el-paso.tx.us. Please include your website and e-mail contact where possible. The printed 2005 edition will be distributed to schools through the MARS program and to community agencies through YIP, generally at the monthly YIP meetings which are held the third Thursday of each month, 10 a.m., at The Alamo, 820 N. Raynor. Contact: YIP at (915) 298-9600.



Del Valle High School MARS Facilitator Bill Vizcaino (2nd from left)



Bowie High School MARS Facilitator, Linda Romero (front left)



Coronado High School MARS facilitator, Deborah Jones, (front left)



El Paso High School MARS Facilitator, Pat Smelser (center right)

MARS Serves Students...the partnership between schools, community health & social services, and law enforcement work together to help families. MARS has been in the public schools since 2000. Community In Schools personnel, at-risk coordinators and school counselors have the opportunity to serve their students better by getting the needed help from outside agencies. Every month social service agencies attend area MARS meetings at all of the high schools in the El Paso, Ysleta, and Socorro Independent School Districts. Parents are encouraged to contact their child's elementary, middle school, or high school counselor or nurse for needs and services through a MARS panel. All cases are discussed with the utmost confidentiality. Agency services are generally free or on a sliding scale fee. For more information on MARS, contact: YIP at 298-9600.



Shadow Box presented to Barcena Family is displayed under his photo

Northeast Regional Command Center Honors Officer Barcena...

On January 7, 2005, officers of the Northeast Regional Command Center presented a shadow box to the Andrew A. Barcena family. The glass-encased United States Flag was surrounded by two El Paso Police Department patches, the Medal of Valor, Officer Barcena's Police Officer badge, and a third badge from the Texas Police Officer's Association.



“The Miracle League of El Paso” is a non-profit organization that provides children with mental and/or physical challenges an opportunity to play baseball as a team member in an organized league.

Miracle League is now recruiting coaches, buddies and players for their first spring season. They are in the process of fundraising to build a specially-equipped baseball field that will give mentally and physically challenged children the recreational opportunity they deserve.

For more information contact Sandie Sparks-Olivar at (915) 872-9249



AVANCE “Toma Mi Corazon” Heart Auction 2005

Excitement is building for the 2005 “Toma Mi Corazon” Heart Auction to be held on February 5, 2005, from 1-3:30 p.m. at the Hal Marcus Gallery. The fund-raising event is sponsored annually by AVANCE, an organization helping young families break the cycle of poverty through early childhood development, parenting, and adult literacy. Watch for more on the “heart” auction which puts heart and dollars toward a worthy cause.

If you are interested in visiting the AVANCE program, please contact Chandra Almony at (915) 351-2419 or calmony@avance-elpaso.org. The visit will enable your organization or group to observe AVANCE in action.



Girl Scout Volunteers Get CPR/SFA Training

The American Red Cross will be giving a Spanish class on CPR/SFA for Girl Scout volunteers. It is approximately an 8 hour class which will be split into two days. The classes will be held at the Program Center on Thursday, February 10 and Friday, February 11, 2005 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. both days. Flyers will be issued. This is the first CPR/SFA class to be provided to the Girl Scouts in Spanish. Please register by February 1st. The Safety Saavy grant which was e-mailed can be used for this class. For more information, contact **Grace Rocha, Training Specialist, Girl Scouts of the Rio Grande Phone: (915) 566-9433. Fax: (915) 565-1500** rochag@gsriogrande.org

Grants Benefit El Paso Families

Five agencies were recently awarded sizeable grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care and Emergency Grants program: the Center Against Family Violence, the Opportunity Center, Rescue Mission, YWCA, and the El Paso Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center; all YIP members! Congratulations!



The YIP Staff thanks everyone who helped out with donations.



Traffic Focus for the month of January is “Following Too Closely”

' 545.062. FOLLOWING DISTANCE. (a) An operator shall, if following another vehicle, maintain an assured clear distance between the two vehicles so that, considering the speed of the vehicles, traffic, and the conditions of the highway, the operator can safely stop without colliding with the preceding vehicle or veering into another vehicle, object, or person on or near the highway.

(b) An operator of a truck or of a motor vehicle drawing another vehicle who is on a roadway outside a business or residential district and who is following another truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle shall, if conditions permit, leave sufficient space between the vehicles so that a vehicle passing the operator can safely enter and occupy the space. This subsection does not prohibit a truck or a motor vehicle drawing another vehicle from passing another vehicle.

(c) An operator on a roadway outside a business or residential district driving in a caravan of other vehicles or a motorcade shall allow sufficient space between the operator and the vehicle preceding the operator so that another vehicle can safely enter and occupy the space. This subsection does not apply to a funeral procession. Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 165, ' 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

Awards for Family Volunteering

The Points of Light Foundation's National Family Volunteer Awards recognize outstanding family volunteering activities performed at any time throughout the past year. Families, business/corporations, nonprofit agencies, and volunteer centers are all eligible to apply. The deadline is March 4, 2005. For more information, **CLICK HERE.** <http://pointsoflight.org/awards/nfva/nominations.cfm>

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

Community Solutions 2005 Calendar

Community Solutions provides support for families of prisoners and reintegration support.. "Connections" provides mentoring for children of prisoners.

January 8 - Board Meeting - 1:30 p.m.

While this meeting is for Board members, our meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in attending, please let us know so that we can provide you with meeting information.

January 22 - New Mentor Training - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

This is the complete required 8 hour initial mentor training. Lunch will be provided. Please call 861-7733 for training information.

January 27 - January Monthly Mentor Training, "Communicating with Kids", 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

This training is required for "Connections" Mentors and will be offered to other community members as well. 2.5 CEU's are available.

January 30 - Mentor Appreciation, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

All "Connections" active and prospective mentors will be honored at this event! Even if you are only thinking about mentoring, you are most welcome to attend. It may help you in making a decision about becoming a mentor or in sharing the experience with others who may be interested. Certificates and mentoring cards will be presented. Please plan to attend. January is National Mentoring Month! Contact: Carolyn Esparza at (915) 861-7733.



The Lullaby Closet...New YIP Member

The Lullaby Closet who for over a year has been helping lower income families provide necessities for their children is YIP's newest member. Lullaby provides items such as diapers, wipes, clothing, and blankets for ages newborn through five. Request assistance through the website: www.thelullabycloset or call (915) 274-4582. Executive Director: Kimberly Fletcher.

Get Fit! Greater El Paso Mountain Runs 2005

Greater El Paso Mountain Runs 2005 (Schedule subject to change) Always check with RD ahead of time to confirm details. In general these runs involve a \$2 donation box fee to cover maps, written directions for each runner, donation to State Park (\$3 park entrance fee) and BLM, plus water jugs on course.

January 22 - NORM'S RUN (4th annual)

50 km + various shorter options. 8:10 a.m. start; Franklin Mountains State Park; come join the run for 7 miles or more!

January 29 - RUN FOR THE STATE LINE!

50Km Start at 8:10 a.m., Franklin Mountains State Park.

February 5 - ORANGE-RED-BROWN (O-R-B) CANYONS RUN

20.7 mi. 8:10 a.m. start; Franklin Mountains State Park.

Check for other runs either on the website at <http://utminers.utep.edu/markd/> or at markd@utep.edu or (915)581-9541. From Mark: "Happy Trails To All!"

Border KIDS COUNT

Release & community discussion of Border KIDS COUNT: *A Snapshot of Southwest Border Children* will be held on Monday, Feb. 7, at the La Fe Cultural & Tech Center, 721 South Ochoa. The release is from 1-2 p.m., and community discussion is from 2-3 p.m. Please contact Janet Hutchison by February 2, 2005, at (512) 320-2222, X105 or Hutchison@cphp.org to reserve your seat. Light refreshments will be served.

EPISD Parent Conference January 22

EPISD Parental Involvement will sponsor a free Parent Conference on Saturday, January 22, 2005 at Austin High School's new gym, located at 3500 Memphis Avenue, from 7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. There will be parental tips and guidance, including "Teaching an Old Dog New Tricks", refreshments, door prizes, and more. Transportation to Austin High provided by prior request (sorry, no daycare available). Please contact Rosa Quintero at (915) 771-1131.



Meetings Begin for "A Smoke Free Paso del Norte"

The American Cancer Society will hold their first coalition meeting for 2005 on January 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the American Cancer Society. Drs. Dennis Smith and Brian Colwell will facilitate a discussion on the future direction of the coalition for "A Smoke Free Paso del Norte". Please RSVP by Monday, January 17, 2005 to either Patricia.Soto@cancer.org or Deborah Oaks at 544-4427. Please remember to return the survey sent to coalition members by Dr. Smith. Whether you are a new or established member, it is important to receive your feedback. For questions or information, please call Deborah Oaks, Program Manager, Prevention at (915) 544-4427 or cell (915) 373-2072.



VOLAR CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

Come Fly with Volar...

Center for Independent Living and the Road Queens motorcycle club in a "Poker Run" to benefit people with disabilities, January 30, 2005. \$10 registration includes meal, door prizes, and "last stop party" to be held at the Multi-purpose Center on Viscount.; \$7 includes meal and "come join the party!" The party includes door prizes, 50/50 raffle, contests, music, food and more. Or, plan to help! Sponsor the event with a donation; contribute a door prize, or buy tickets!

Volar has helped people with disabilities of all ages for 23 years. Contact: Volar at (915) 591-0800.

Youth Fair at Sandoval Housing

The Housing Authority invites you to participate at a Youth Fair to be held on Saturday, February 19, 2005, from 9 a.m. to noon at Sandoval Housing Complex, 5353 Ridge. For registration form or information please call (915) 849-3665 or e-mail ltellez@hacep.org

Multi-Agency Referral System (MARS) School Schedule, 2005

EL PASO ISD

Andress High Library Conference Room	Mon. @ 1:30 p.m.	1/10, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2	Deborah Lunow	832-8600/ 757-6443
Austin High Cafeteria Lounge	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 4/12, 5/10	Robert Teran	587-2506/566-7360
Bowie High Library	Fri. @ 10:00 a.m.	1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13	Linda Romero	496-8200/532-1918
Burges High Conference	Wed. @ 10 a.m.	1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/13, 5/18	Martin Rivas	780-1100/771-6914
Chapin High Library Rm 151	Mon. @ 8:45 a.m.	1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9	Barbara Augustine	832-6730/565-9716
Coronado High Library	Mon. @ 10: a.m.	1/10, 2/14, 3/9, 4/13, 5/11	Deborah Jones	834-2476/587-6458
El Paso High Counseling Center	Wed. @ 10:00 a.m.	1/12, 2/9, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12	Pat Smelser	496-8300/532-2008
Franklin High Cafeteria Lounge	Wed. @ 10 a.m.	1/19, 2/15, 3/16, 4/20, 5/18	Rita Aguillera	832-6600/587-4094
Irvin High Cafeteria Lounge	Fri. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6	John Marestein	587-3500/757-6450
Jefferson High Room 231	Fri. @ 10:30 a.m.	1/7, 2/4, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6	Donna Rollins	496-8010/532-2033

YSLETA ISD

Bel Air High Counselor's Rm.	Thur. @ 8:00 a.m.	1/20, 2/17, 3/24, 4/21, 5/19	Terry Randall	434-2042/434-2174
Del Valle High Library	Thurs. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5	Martha Campos	434-3180/858-1427
Eastwood High Room 209	Wed. @ 1:00 p.m.	1/26, 2/23, 3/30, 4/27, 5/25	Rita Montoya	434-4291/598-8014
Hanks High Teachers' Conference Rm.	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/18, 2/15, 3/22, 4/19, 5/18	Brenda Trejo	434-5188/598-4621
Parkland High Asst. Principal's Conference	Tue. @ 9:00 a.m.	1/11, 2/1, 3/1, 4/4, 5/2	Margarita Hernandez	434-6048/434-6291
Riverside High (locations rotate) Library	Tue. @ 10:30 a.m.	1/18 @ Tejas School of Choice 2/8 @ Riverside Middle 3/8 @ Cadwallader 4/12 @ Riverside High 5/10 @ Ramona Elem.	Ofelia Gonzalez	434-7018/779-6983
Ysleta High Room 120	Wed. @ 8:30 a.m.	1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4	Liz Hernandez	434-8020/434-8026

SOCORRO ISD

Americas/Montwood High Counselor's room	Wed. @ 2:00 p.m.	1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4	Nick Carey	937-2840/855-6898
Socorro High Library Classroom	Thur. @ 1:00 p.m.	1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5	Arlene Lira	937-2000/859-0206

Published by:

Youth Initiative Program

El Paso Police Department

**El Paso Police Department****Youth Initiative Program****9600 Dyer Street****El Paso, TX. 79924**

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